

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 04245 161750Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----161802Z 111922 /40

O 161535Z APR 77 ZFF-6
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 526
INFO: RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE 7064
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 4245

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CG, NI
SUBJECT: BRITISH SUPPORT FOR NIGERIAN MEDIATION

REF: (A) STATE 85147; (B) STATE 85801

1. SECRETARY'S MESSAGE (REF A) PASSED UK HICOMER SIR SAM FALLE APRIL 16 PURSUANT REF B. SIR SAM SAID HE WOULD GET MESSAGE TO FONSEC OWEN ON HIS ARRIVAL LAGOS APRIL 17. OWEN'S ARRIVAL IS CURRENTLY EXPECTED TO BE DELAYED A FEW HOURS, AS IT HAS JUST BEEN CONFIRMED HE WILL BE VISITING LUANDA EN ROUTE.

2. SIR SAM SAID HE WAS SURE OWEN WOULD BRING UP THE SUBJECT OF NIGERIAN MEDIATION EFFORTS IN HIS TALK WITH EXTAFF COMMISSIONER GARBA, BUT HE SUSPECTD OWEN WOULD WANT TO DO IT IN A LOW KEY WAY, EXPRESSING INTEREST IN THE EFFORT AND ASKING GARBA HOW HE SAW THE SITUATION AND NEXT STEPS; OWEN WOULD WISH AVOID PRESSURING GARBA ON THE SUBJECT. WHILE NOT SUGGESTING PRESSURE TACTICS, DCM SAID HE BELIEVED A SOMEWHAT STRONGER PITCH URGING NIGERIANS TO PURSUE THEIR INITIATIVE ENERGETICALLY (PER REF A), WOULD BE APPROPRIATE, AS WE HAD IMPRESSION FMG
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MAY CURRENTLY BE INCLINED WAIT AND SEE WHAT EFFECT MOROCCAN AND OTHER ASSISTANCE HAS ON ZAIRE SITUATION; SUCH DELAY WOULD FRUSTRATE THE PURPOSE OF THE EXERCISE, GREATEST VALUE OF WHICH WOULD NOT BE MILITARY BUT STABILIZATION OF SITUATION TO PROVIDE BREATHING SPACE FOR NEGOTIATIONS. MOBUTU SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE MAXIMUM USE OF THIS BREATHING SPACE TO GET TALKS WITH ANGOLA UNDER WAY. SIR SAM AGREED, SAID HE

WOULD MAKE THIS POINT TO OWEN AND WILL GIVE US FULL REPORT ON
HOW OWEN/GARBA MEETING GOES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 16-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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